Review of the industrial policy, procedures and their implementation is an ongoing process. The focus of the review is always on development and promotion of industries rather than on regulations.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to establish new industries.

Decline in Export Growth Rate

1062. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export growth rate has slowed down sharply over the last three years and from a high of 18.4 per cent in 1995-96, it has shrunk to -5.1 per cent in the first half of 1998-99; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics data the export growth in US $ terms in 1995-96 was registered at 20.8% over the same period last year. This growth is estimated at 3.7% in 1998-99 over the corresponding provisional estimates of the previous year. The exports have shown remarkable recovery and has been provisionally estimated at 11.32% in US $ terms during April-January, 2000 over the same period last year.

(b) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

Structural Reforms

1063. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the major policy decisions taken by Government since the inception of the structural reforms;

(b) what are the objectives of these policy decisions; and